



RCE 176B
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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL

Address to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Application No. 09/945,454
Filing Date August 31, 2001
First Named Inventor Steven Verhaverbeke et al.
Art Unit 1763
Examiner Name Moore, Karla A.
Attorney Docket No. 4936 USA/ETCH/METAL/JB1

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See instruction sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114** – Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).
 - a. ☐ Previously submitted If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Enclosed
 - i. ☒ Amendment and Response
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Other _____
2. **Miscellaneous**
 - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months. Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
 - b. ☐ Other _____
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 02-2226
 - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 - ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Processing fee under 37 CFR § 1.17(i) for Limited Suspension of Action
 - iv. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 770.00 enclosed
 - c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type) Michael A. Bernadicou Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 35,934
Signature [Signature] Date 1/26/04

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

Name (Print/Type) Teresa Edwards
Signature [Signature] Date January 26, 2004